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QUADRENNIAL REPORTS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, CATEGORIES I AND II

Quadrennial reports, 1988-1991

Reports submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968

Addendum

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ASSOCIATION AFRICAINE D'EDUCATION POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT

(Category II)

The goal of the Association africaine d'éducation pour le développement (ASAFED), a pan-African non-profit non-governmental organization (NGO), is to increase African public awareness and knowledge of development problems. For that purpose, it publishes the quarterly review Famille & développement (Family and Development) and organizes educational seminars.

ASAFED is made up of national chapters in the 18 African member countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Togo, and Zaire.

Publications

ASAFED's periodical Famille & développement was regularly published during the 1988-1991 period, from No. 47/48 to No. 59.

That was made possible in part by grants received from: the International Development Research Centre (Canada), the Canadian International Development Agency (Canada), and Switzerland's Department of Swiss Cooperation for Development and Humanitarian Assistance.

Seminars organized by ASAFED

(a) Inter-African seminar on women, health and communication, held from 5 to 14 September at Lomé, Togo, jointly with the Centre for African Family Studies (CEFA/CAFS) of Nairobi and the Panafrican Institute for Development (PAID) of Douala;

(b) Inter-African seminar on the role of journalists in promoting awareness of traditional practices adversely affecting the health of women and children, held from 25 to 30 April 1990 at Lomé, Togo, in cooperation with the Inter-African Committee on Traditional Practices Affecting the Health of Women and Children (Geneva) and UNICEF.

Meetings in which ASAFED has participated

(a) United Nations seminar on human rights from 5 to 7 April at Lomé, Togo;

(b) Seminar/workshop on the Health and Nutrition Education Guide, held from 12 to 17 June at Kpalimé, Togo, by Catholic Relief Service (CATHWEL) and UNICEF;

(c) Days of reflection on the current situation and future prospects of African youth, held in observance of World Food Day by FAO from 11 to 15 October, at Lomé, Togo;

(d) NGO forum on the process of development in Togo, held from 19 to 20 December 1988 at Lomé, Togo, by UNDP, IMF and the World Bank;

(e) Seminar to make African journalists aware of population issues, held from 10 to 12 May 1989 at Yaoundé, Cameroon, by UNFPA;

(f) Preparatory meeting on a strategy for children in the 1990s, held from 6 to 7 July 1989 at Lomé, Togo, by UNICEF;

(g) Regional consultation on Education for All, held from 27 to 30 November 1989 at Dakar, Senegal, by UNICEF, UNESCO, UNDP and the World Bank;

(h) Global Consultation on the Right to Development as a Human Right, held from 8 to 12 January 1990 at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland, by the United Nations;

(i) World Conference on Education for All, held from 5 to 9 March 1990 at Jomtien, Thailand, by UNICEF, UNESCO, UNDP and the World Bank;

(j) International seminar on the interaction between the status of women and population phenomena, held from 28 May to 1 June 1990 at Lomé, Togo by UNFPA;

(k) Inter-African Meeting on Traditional Practices Adversely Affecting the Health of Women and Children, held from 19 to 24 November 1990 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, by the Inter-African Committee (Geneva), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), UNFPA and UNICEF;

(l) Regional African Preparatory Conference of UNCED, held from 11 to 16 July 1991 at Cairo, Egypt, by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(m) Subregional NGO meeting on literacy in Francophone Africa, held from 3 to 5 October 1991 at Porto-Novo, Benin, by UNESCO;

(n) International African NGO seminar on "Water and Environment", held from 21 to 25 October 1991 at Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(o) International Forum on "Health – A Conditionality for Economic Development: Breaking the Cycle of Poverty and Inequity", held from 4 to 6 December 1991 at Accra, Ghana, by WHO.

Relations with agencies of the United Nations system

The documents and summary records of United Nations bodies reach us regularly and are made use of. In exchange, WHO, UNFPA, UNDP, UNICEF, UNESCO, etc., receive the ASAFED periodical Famille & développement.

ASAFED regularly pays its dues to the UNICEF NGO Committee and to the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the

Economic and Social Council (CONGO), and took a direct part in the election of the Bureau in Geneva in 1991.

Through its representative in Geneva, ASAFED takes part in the work of CONGO at the Palais des Nations on a regular basis.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF THE WORLD REFUGEE PROBLEM

(Category II)

The considerable scientific activity of the Association for the Study of the World Refugee Problem (AWR) becomes particularly evident at its annual conferences, which, from 1988 to 1991, took place in the following countries and dealt with the following subjects:

1988	Augsburg, Germany	Refugees and human rights
1989	Salzburg, Austria	De facto refugees
1990	Strasbourg, France	Fortieth anniversary of AWR. History, growth and future of refugee research
1991	Ancona, Italy	Refugees in the world

The average number of participants in each conference was 100, including university professors, social workers and representatives of international organizations, Governments and voluntary associations. Representatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees played a very active part in the proceedings. Even delegates to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg made their contribution to the work of the conferences.

The annual conferences led to the issuance of a number of important documents:

(a) 1988. The situation in Romania and the violation of the human rights of the Hungarian and German minorities;

(b) 1989. The situation in Bulgaria and the violation of the human rights of the Turkish minority, as well as a document on de facto refugees;

(c) 1990. General principles for the solution of refugee problems;

(d) The situation in the former Yugoslavia.

All of the above were transmitted to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, all international organizations, interested international Governments and national Governments.

The most important of the studies by the international expert committees making up AWR - on legal matters; international refugees; documentation; statistics, terminology and bibliography; youth; integration; foreign workers; sociology and health - and by various partners of the association have been published in the quarterly AWR Bulletin, which appears in four languages (English, French, German and Italian). We shall cite only a few of the most important titles, out of a total of more than 300:

(a) Internationale Fachtagung zum Asylrecht der Hanns-Seidel-Stiftung in Wildbad-Kreuth;

(b) Norme concernenti i diritti e le garanzie dei richiedenti asilo a lo status di rifugiato;

(c) The international perspectives of Australia's immigration policies;

(d) Les problèmes des réfugiés dans le monde en 1986 et 1987;

(e) Der Beitrag der griechischen Flüchtlinge and Vertriebenen aus Kleinasien zum Aufbau Neugriechenlands;

(f) La legislazione comparata sul diritto di asilo nei paesi occidentali;

(g) Juridical structures of refugee and migration questions;

(h) Le problème des réfugiés de facto en Belgique.

AWR also publishes the series Traités sur le problème des réfugiés. This, as well as the AWR Bulletin, is regularly sent to the Economic and Social Council. In addition, the various national chapters of AWR sometimes publish books on refugee problems.

In order to stimulate interest in refugee questions among young people several national chapters have set up youth groups bringing together specialists and social workers under 30.

Not only has AWR taken part regularly in UNHCR working sessions, it has also maintained contacts with the various volunteer agencies concerned with the problems of refugees and with the Council of Europe's Committee on Migration, Refugees and Demography.

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF CHILDREN'S FRIENDS

(Category II)

The World Association of Children's Friends (AMADE) is represented by affiliated associations, known as "regional AMADEs", in 18 countries: Austria, Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, France, Greece, Guinea, Italy, Lithuania, Madagascar, Monaco, Philippines, Senegal, Spain, Switzerland, Togo, and Zaire.

Its goal is to support and promote all organizations and undertakings devoted to the physical, moral and spiritual welfare of the world's children, whatever their race, nationality or religion, in a spirit of complete political independence.

On the moral or intellectual plane, AMADE is active in the following areas:

(a) Opposition to the portrayal of violence on television. Each year a UNESCO-sponsored AMADE prize is awarded at the Monte Carlo International Television Festival to a quality film meeting the ideals of UNESCO and AMADE.

(b) Protection of the unborn child. AMADE combats excessive genetic engineering and fights for a legal status for the unborn child. In April 1989 a day of debate was held under AMADE auspices at the European Parliament in Strasbourg on children endangered by science. AMADE has worked to have protection of the child still unborn mentioned in the preamble to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

(c) Combating drug use by young people.

(d) Combating juvenile prostitution.

(e) Combating the involvement of children in armed conflicts.

On the material plane, AMADE contributes to projects put forward by national AMADEs on the recommendation of its projects Committee.

AMADE gives case-by-case assistance with projects undertaken in other countries, such as:

(a) To the Kurds in 1991;

(b) To the schools of Caiza, Bolivia;

(c) To the Fondation syndrome de l'enfant battu, Belgium;

(d) To a drop-in centre for handicapped children, Guinea;

(e) For the purchase of a grain mill, Togo;

(f) For the development of market garden operations, Togo;

(g) To build a garage for apprenticeship training, Togo;

(h) To set up a weaving workshop, Madagascar;

(i) To outfit a training centre for handicapped young people, Greece.

INTERNATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTION COMMITTEE

(Category II)

The International Motor Vehicle Inspection Committee is a totally non-profit international non-governmental association. Its purpose is to propose, coordinate and develop scientific studies and investigations designed to improve the quality and efficiency of the control of vehicles now in service. In pursuit of that scientific goal it promotes international cooperation among its members by forming various working groups focusing on the study of problems having to do with carrying out and promoting technical inspection throughout the world. Among the most active working groups are those dealing with braking, pollution, steering and suspension, lighting, chassis, overall quality of inspection stations and extension of technical inspection to developing countries.

General assemblies are held every two years. The last two were held in Stockholm in 1988 and in Oslo in 1990, one recommendation being adopted at each. A general assembly is planned in Singapore in 1992 and another for 1994, probably in Vienna. In addition, the Committee regularly organizes a symposium, between general meetings, in Brussels. At these symposia the Committee formulates resolutions to continue the work of the working groups and recommendations are adopted at the general meetings.

The Permanent Bureau of the International Motor Vehicle Inspection Committee also takes part in and cooperates with the activities of the Working Group on traffic safety and made proposals when the draft amendments to the 1968 Vienna Convention on Road Signs and Signals and technical conditions applicable to vehicles were under consideration. Accordingly, the Geneva Convention that is to replace that convention will contain a recommendation for carrying out technical inspection on private cars, to the extent possible, in all States Members of the United Nations. The draft as a whole has been sent to New York.

The Working Group on traffic safety also undertook a traffic safety campaign in 1991 in which the organizations belonging to the Committee participated. A message regarding the need for obligatory inspection of all vehicles on the road was prepared following the campaign and was submitted by the Secretary General on 23 March 1992 at the special meeting held to evaluate the campaign, which was organized by the European Economic Commission.

In addition, the Committee is a member of the NGO Committee on Development and is represented on it by its permanent representative in New York.